

REMARKS

An Office Action was mailed on May 26, 2004. Claims 1 – 17 are currently pending in the application, with claim 18 having been previously canceled. Applicant adds new claim 19. No new matter is introduced.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,112,172 to True et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,678,054 to Shibata. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over True in view of Shibata and U.S. Patent No. 5,635,814 to Luciw. Claims 3, 6 – 8 and 14 – 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over True in view of Shibata and Microsoft Bookshelf Basics Edition (Bookshelf). Claims 9 – 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over True in view of Shibata, U.S. Patent No. 4,654,873 to Fujisawa et al. and U.S. Patent No. 5,774,859 to Houser et al. Applicant amends claim 1 to clarify the nature of his invention, and respectfully traverses these rejections.

In independent claim 1, Applicant discloses:

1. An information entry apparatus comprising:

an alphanumeric entry unit for entering alphanumeric string information,

a display unit for displaying keywords comprised of predetermined alphanumeric strings in a plurality of corresponding fields on a display screen,

a word dictionary for storing a plurality of keywords, each keyword corresponding to one of the plurality of fields and to a plurality of similar words for deducing the keyword, and

an alphanumeric information processing unit for cutting out predetermined word strings from the entered alphanumeric string, searching through the word

dictionary by the cut out words, extracting a corresponding group of keywords from a dictionary for which matches are obtained by comparison with ones of the group of extracted keywords of the dictionary and the pluralities of similar words, and displaying each extracted keyword in its corresponding field on the display unit;

wherein at least two fields on the display unit each display at least one keyword from the group of extracted keywords.

As an illustration of the claimed features of claim 1, Applicant's FIG. 11A illustrates a dictionary table for the "case name" field of FIG. 10A. The table of FIG. 11A lists keywords to be associated with similar word strings for the field "case name". Applicant's claimed alphanumeric information processing unit operates to extract a word string from an entered alphanumeric string (for example, "breaking and entering"), to search similar word strings in each of the dictionary tables for the various display screen fields, and upon finding a match in one of the dictionary tables associated with one of the display screen fields, to display an associated keyword ("theft") in the corresponding display screen field ("case name"). A similar process is used to extract and display keywords in other fields, such as "time of occurrence", "station in charge" and "gender" fields (see, e.g., FIGs. 12A – 12B).

True discloses a method for searching a file for portions that meet user-defined criteria, and for graphically displaying the search results. Displayed search results include, for example, bar chart depictions of found parts values, text portions and their location in the file, and the like (see, e.g., column 1, line 37 through column 2, line 61 and FIG. 1 of True).

The Examiner suggests that True teaches Applicant's claim limitations disclosing a) an alphanumeric entry unit for entering alphanumeric string information, b) a display unit for displaying keywords comprised of predetermined alphanumeric strings in a plurality of corresponding fields on a display screen, d) an alphanumeric information processing unit for cutting out predetermined word strings from the entered alphanumeric string and displaying each

extracted keyword in its corresponding field on the display unit, and e) wherein at least two fields on the display unit each display at least one keyword from the group of extracted keywords. The Examiner however acknowledges that True fails to disclose Applicant's claim limitation c) a word dictionary for storing a plurality of keywords, each keyword corresponding to one of the plurality of fields and to a plurality of similar words for deducing the keyword.

Shibata discloses a data searching device including a keyboard for entering a data string, a display unit, primary and secondary memory areas, and a selector for selecting secondary data for display when the entered string matches associated primary data. The Examiner argues that Shibata's primary and secondary memory areas are equivalent to Applicant's claimed word dictionary. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Specifically, Applicant submits that True and Shibata, alone and in combination, fail to disclose or otherwise suggest the limitations of claim 1 requiring a "word dictionary for storing a plurality of keywords, each keyword corresponding to one of the plurality of fields".

For example, in the graphical display displayed in FIG. 2 of True, text portions are simply placed consecutively in fields of a transcript window 22 that are each tagged with location information for the associated text portion. Unlike Applicant's claimed invention, there is no teaching or suggestion by True for maintaining a dictionary entry for each keyword that corresponds each keyword with a specifically identified one of the plurality of display fields. True teaches away from this limitation, as the method of True assigns text portions to the fields of transcript window 22 consecutively and without regard for corresponding keywords.

Shibata discloses a data searching device including a keyboard for entering a data string, a display unit, primary and secondary memory areas, and a selector for selecting secondary data for display when the entered string matches associated primary data. The Examiner argues that

Shibata's primary and secondary memory areas are equivalent to Applicant's word dictionary. While Shibata does suggest corresponding a keyword with a plurality of similar words, unlike Applicant's claimed invention, Shibata fails to disclose or suggest that this correspondence is made "for deducing the keyword." Rather, Shibata teaches outputting the similar words after detecting the keyword (see, e.g., FIG. 10A of Shibata). In addition, in sharp contrast to Applicant's claimed invention, Shibata fails to teach or suggest Applicant's claimed correspondence of keywords to display fields.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is not made obvious by the combination of True and Shibata, and is therefore in condition for allowance. As claims 2 – 17 depend from allowable claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2 – 17 also stand in condition for allowance for at least this reason.

NEW CLAIM

Applicant adds new claim 19, which claims an emergency call system comprising the information apparatus of claim 1, and respectfully submits that none of the cited references, either alone or in combination, disclose or suggest an emergency call system comprising the claimed features of new claim 19.

CONCLUSION

An earnest effort has been made to be fully responsive to the Examiner's objections. In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that claims 1 – 17 and 19, consisting of independent claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom, is in condition for allowance. Passage of this case to allowance is earnestly solicited. However, if for any reason the Examiner

should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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Docket No: FUJA 16.796 (100794-09716)
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